

WE CLAIM:

1. A method in a data processing system for providing a user of the data
5 processing system with control of a software object organized into a plurality of
information levels of varying amounts of information, the method comprising:
initially displaying a first display window having a first window size,
wherein the first display window includes
a first level tab navigation frame for allowing the user interactive access to
10 a first information level of the plurality of information levels, and
a first window-sizing interface for allowing the user interactive access to a
second display window having a second window size,
wherein the second display window includes a second level tab navigation
frame for allowing the user interactive access to a second information level of the
15 plurality of information levels; and
displaying the second display window subsequent to the initial display of
the first display window in response to the user interacting with the first window-sizing
interface.
- 20 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the second display window further
includes a second window-sizing interface for allowing the user interactive access to the
first display window.
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising:
25 displaying the first display window subsequent to the display of the
second display window in response to the user interacting with the second window-sizing
interface to obtain access to the first display window.

4. The method of claim 1,
wherein the second display window further includes a second window-
sizing interface for allowing the user interactive access to a third display window having
5 a third window size; and

wherein the third display window includes a third level tab navigation
frame for allowing the user interactive access to a third information level of the plurality
of information levels.

10 5. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
displaying the third display window subsequent to the display of the
second display window in response to the user interacting with the second window-sizing
interface to obtain access to the third display window.

15 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the first level tab navigation frame
includes a first tab content correlated to the first window size.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the first tab content includes at least one
of icons, user interface elements of text, status information in graphs, status information
20 in tables, status information in icons, controls and combinations therein.

8. The method of claim 6,
wherein the second level tab navigation frame includes a second tab
content correlated to the second window size; and
25 wherein the second tab content includes information displayed in the first
display window.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

orienting the display of the first display window relative to either a vertical axis or a horizontal axis as a function of the first window size.

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10. A computer readable medium for providing a user of the data processing system with control of a software object organized into a plurality of information levels of varying amounts of information, the computer readable medium comprising:

computer readable code for initially displaying a first display window

10 having a first window size, wherein the first display window includes

a first level tab navigation frame for allowing the user interactive access to a first information level of the plurality of information levels, and

a first window-sizing interface for allowing the user interactive access to a second display window having a second window size,

15 wherein the second display window includes a second level tab navigation frame for allowing the user interactive access to a second information level of the plurality of information levels; and

computer readable code for displaying the second display window subsequent to the initial display of the first display window in response to the user

20 interacting with the first window sizing element.

11. The computer readable medium of claim 10, wherein the second display window further includes a second window-sizing interface for allowing the user interactive access to the first display window.

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12. The computer readable medium of claim 11, further comprising:
computer readable code for displaying the first display window
subsequent to the display of the second display window in response to the user
5 interacting with the second window-sizing interface to obtain access to the first display
window.

13. The computer readable medium of claim 10,
wherein the second display window further includes a second window-
10 sizing interface for allowing the user interactive access to a third display window having
a third window size; and
wherein the third display window includes a third level tab navigation
frame for allowing the user interactive access to a third information level of the plurality
of information levels.

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14. The computer readable medium of claim 13, further comprising:
computer readable code for displaying the third display window
subsequent to the display of the second display window in response to the user
interacting with the second window-sizing interface to obtain access to the third display
20 window.

15. The computer readable medium of claim 10, wherein the first level tab
navigation frame includes a first tab content correlated to the first window size.

16. The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the first tab content includes at least one of icons, user interface elements of text, status information in graphs, status information in tables, status information in icons, controls and
5 combinations therein.

17. The computer readable medium of claim 15,
wherein the second level tab navigation frame includes a second tab
content correlated to the second window size; and
10 wherein the second tab content includes information displayed in the first
display window.

18. The computer readable medium of claim 10, further comprising:
computer readable code for orienting the display of the first display
15 window relative to either a vertical access or a horizontal axis as a function of the first
window size.

19. A system for providing a user of the data processing system with control of a software object organized into a plurality of information levels of varying amounts of information, the system comprising:

5 means for initially displaying a first display window having a first window size, wherein the first display window includes

a first level tab navigation frame for allowing the user interactive access to a first information level of the plurality of information levels, and

a first window-sizing interface for allowing the user interactive access to a
10 second display window having a second window size,

wherein the second display window includes a second level tab navigation frame for allowing the user interactive access to a second information level of the plurality of information levels; and

means for displaying the second display window subsequent to the initial
15 display of the first display window in response to the user interacting with the first window sizing element.

20 20. The system of claim 19, wherein the second display window further includes a second window-sizing interface for allowing the user interactive access to the first display window.

21. The system of claim 20, further comprising:
means for displaying the first display window subsequent to the display of
the second display window in response to the user interacting with the second window-
25 sizing interface to obtain access to the first display window.

22. The system of claim 19,
wherein the second display window further includes a second window-
sizing interface for allowing the user interactive access to a third display window having
5 a third window size; and

wherein the third display window includes a third level tab navigation
frame for allowing the user interactive access to a third information level of the plurality
of information levels.

10 23. The system of claim 22, further comprising:
means for displaying the third display window subsequent to the display
of the second display window in response to the user interacting with the second
window-sizing interface to obtain access to the third display window.

15 24. The system of claim 19, wherein the first level tab navigation frame
includes a first tab content correlated to the first window size.

25. The system of claim 24, wherein the first tab content includes at least one
of icons, user interface elements of text, status information in graphs, status information
20 in tables, status information in icons, controls and combinations therein.

26. The system of claim 24,
wherein the second level tab navigation frame includes a second tab
content correlated to the second window size; and

5 wherein the second tab content includes information displayed in the first
display window.

27. The system of claim 19, further comprising:
means for orienting the display of the first display window relative to
10 either a vertical axis or a horizontal axis as a function of the first window size.